

Appl. No. 09/912,730
Amdt. dated June 20, 2006
Reply to Office action of May 20, 2006

Remarks/Arguments

The Office Action states that applicant's previous amendment was not fully responsive because it failed to respond to the species election in the prior Office Action.

In discussing the Office Action by telephone with Examiner Weisberger on June 13, 2006, the Examiner agreed that the previous amendment was in fact fully responsive and did include the required species election. The Examiner was going to attempt to have the Office Action withdrawn, but no reply has been received from the Examiner.

In view of applicant's earlier response, it is believed that this application is in condition for examination on the merits. This application has been pending for almost five years. Prompt action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. Mason
Registration No. 22,948

Date: June 20, 2006
File No. 5441-001